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12/19/05 E-256-1999/0-US-06 465306 GW/TM11:gth 4239-64087-01

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

16th Floor World Trade Center, 121 S.W. Salmon Street, Portland, Oregon 97204 U.S.A. PHONE: 503-595-5300 FAX: 503-595-5301

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Message:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the below-identified application is a Response to

Restriction Requirement. If you do not receive all pages or if you have problems receiving

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In re application of: Cuttitta et al.

Application No. 10/070,853

Filed: August 26, 2002 Confirmation No. 2579

DETERMINATION OF ADRENOMEDULLIN-For:

BINDING PROTEINS

Examiner: Lisa V. Cook

Art Unit: 1641

Attorney Reference No. 4239-64087-01

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via fax number (571) 273-8300 on the date skinwn below.

Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)

Tanya M. Harding

Date Transmitted

December 19, 2005

 \boxtimes No additional fee is required.

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Tanya M. Harding, Ph.D. Registration No. 42,630

December 19, 2005

cc: Docketing

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GW/I'MH:gth 12/19/05 464062.doc E-256-1999/0-US-06 PATENT Attorney Reference Number 4239-64087-01 Application Number 10/070,853

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of: Cuttitta et al.

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DETERMINATION OF

ADRENOMEDULLIN-BINDING

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Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)___

Tanya M. Harding, I

Date Transmitted December 19.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This responds to the Office action (Restriction Requirement) dated November 18, 2005, for which a one-month period of reply was set, December 18, 2005 was a Sunday, making a response due on or before Monday, December 19, 2005. This response is timely filed on December 19, 2005. It is believed that no fee is required; however if it is determined that a fee is necessary to file this paper, deposit account authority is provided in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Remarks

Claims 1-52 are pending in this application. Claims 1-52 were subject to a restriction requirement dated November 18, 2005, in which the claims were divided into nine Groups (I-IX). Applicants provisionally elect Group I (drawn to methods of measuring adrenomedullin levels in a sample) with traverse. Applicants request that the requirement for restriction be withdrawn based on the comments provided herein. No amendments are made.

This application is a National Phase of an international patent application filed under the PCT. The applicable standard with respect to restriction practice in a National Phase Application is the Unity of Invention Standard under PCT Rule 13.1 and 13.2. Under PCT Rule 13.2, if various embodiments of an invention are linked by a shared special technical feature it is improper to divide them into separate inventions for the purpose of examination. Accordingly, in the present application, the claims can only be restricted into more than one group for the